

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 KUWAIT 001013

SIPDIS

DEPT ALSO FOR USAID - DCHA/OFDA

GENEVA FOR UNDRO AND LRCS

USCINCCENT ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [AMGT](#) [PREL](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [EAID](#) [KU](#)

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 4

REF: KUWAIT 999

11. SITREP NO. 4 AS OF 1159 HOURS LOCAL, 0359 HOURS WASHINGTON TIME.

12. EVENTS SINCE LAST SITREP:

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Security

Classified Kuwait 1012 reported multiple missile launches. Watchstanders and others put on gas masks and went to safehaven until all clear announced. No chemical/biological agents were detected

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Military

At 2010 Kuwait Ops Center confirmed to Iraq Task Force that several oil wells south of Basara were on fire as reported on Fox News and by DOE.

Obtained for US Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff from Office of Military Cooperation-Kuwait the name of the Kuwaiti equivalent of the Chairman, LTG Fahad Ahmed Al Amir, (work 965-484-7400 ext. 60541, mobile 965-984-4404).

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Political

At 1510, Watchstander called White House Situation Room and provided the phone number (965) 563-6222 for a call to Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah at 1720 Kuwait time.

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Consular

At 1355 Watchstanders spoke to Kuwait Airport Emergency Control Center - airport was still operating at this time, although some flights had been suspended after announcement of incoming missiles from Iraq.

At 2100 CONS circulated a Wardens Message updating the American community on the current situation. The Message advised that while the Airport remained open, service had been severely restricted. The Message also reminded American citizens that visas are required to enter Saudi Arabia and that they are not available at the border, that travelers will not be allowed to cross without a visa, and that women are not allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia.

At 2300 hrs CONS Chief spoke with FSO Thomas Rosenberg (mobile 966-05-620-6921) from Consulate Dhahran, who has arrived in Khafji on the Kuwait/Saudi border with another FSO and FSN to assist Americans crossing into Saudi Arabia. He reports that everything is calm. Saudi authorities have informed him that they are willing to issue visas at the border to Americans facing genuine emergencies. However, they do not believe that the security situation in Kuwait at this time is dire enough to initiate a general policy of approving visas at the border. Post is unaware of any Americans "stranded" at the border.

At 2330 CONS, in response to Department request, contacted Kuwait Airways concerning a group of Amcit passengers who arrived in Kuwait today from Mumbai and had been unable to depart as scheduled for Chicago due to the threat of missile attack. Kuwait Airways has located all 51 American passengers at a hotel near the airport. Passengers have had to share rooms because of the high occupancy rate at all Kuwait hotels. Passengers are currently scheduled to leave tomorrow on KU 103 at 1230 for London, with onward connections still pending. CONS spoke to one American passenger who stated that all passengers are safe, but frustrated and concerned about being in Kuwait at this time. CONS has faxed the latest Warden Message to the hotel and asked that it be distributed to all American guests.

A total of 23 persons (AMCITS and their family members) who have contacted the Embassy to request assistance departing Kuwait are still pending departure.

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Management

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TDY FS Health Practitioner Joanne Silva arrived after circuitous journey from Miami via London, Frankfurt, Dubai, Kuwait to support Health Unit operate extended hours, seven days a week.

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Pending Issues

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None

13. COMMENTS: None

14. STATUS OF PENDING REQUESTS: See above.

JONES